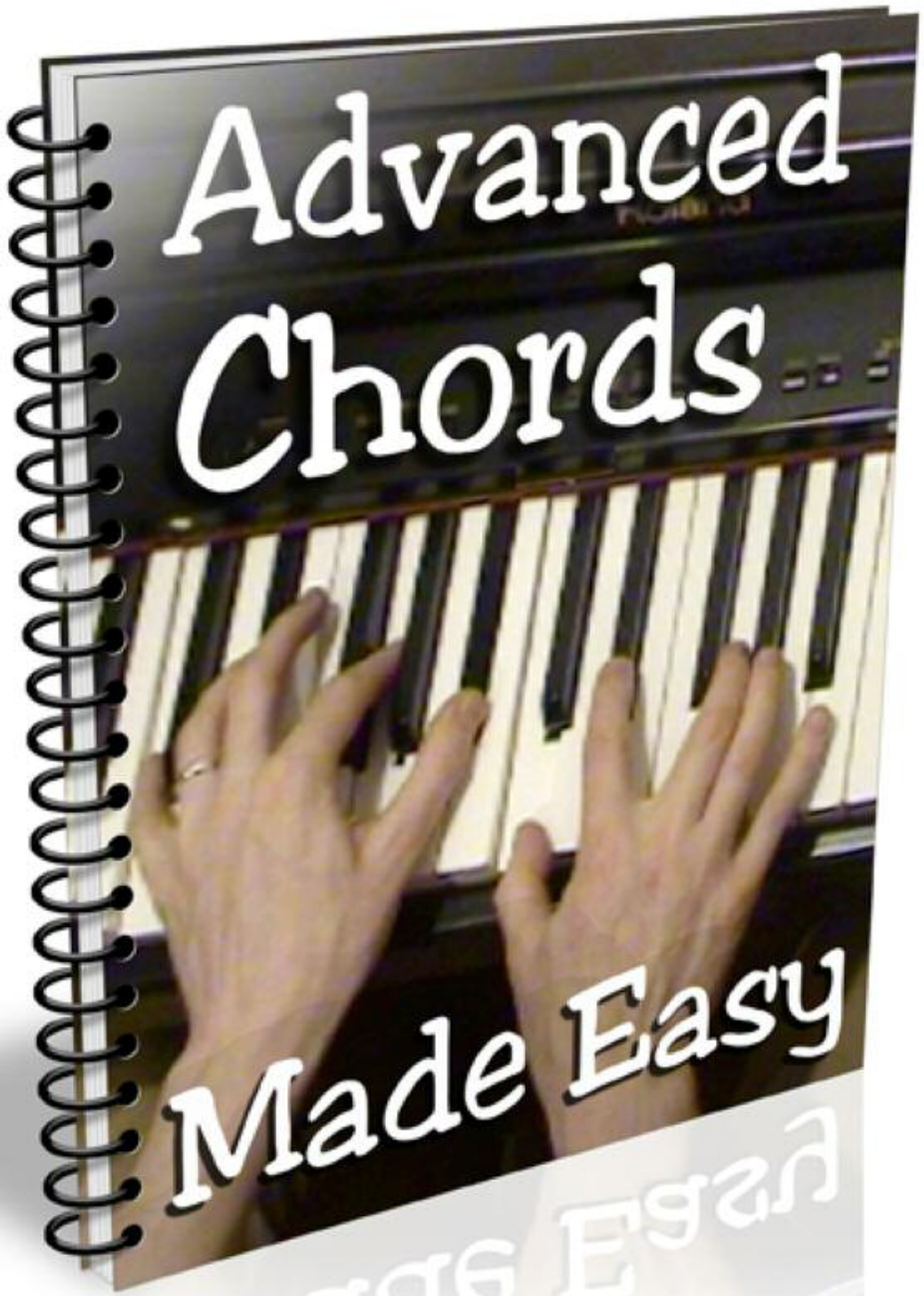

Advanced
Chords
Made Easy

BLUFF YOUR WAY
‘9’, ‘11’ and ‘sus4’
CHORDS

ONE MAGIC FORMULA

The more tunes you play, the more you will see chords with the numbers 9, 11 and sus4 after them.

It is important to learn how to play these chords because they all add ‘colour’ to your tunes.

I have devised ONE MAGIC FORMULA that let’s you bluff all three types of chord easily...

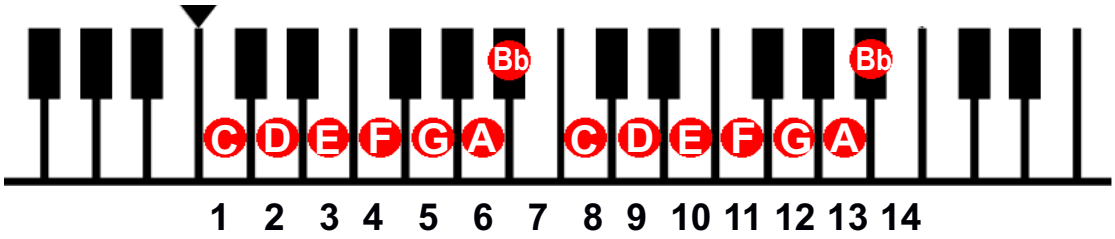
BLUFF YOUR WAY - ‘9’, ‘11’ and ‘sus4’ CHORDS

part 1 - Where the numbers come from

Chords are based on SCALES

Chord NOTE NUMBERS are derived from these scales

For instance, this is a C7 scale - (2 Octaves)



The chord of C **uses 1 3 5** **=** **C E G**

The chord of Csus4 **uses 1 3 4 5** **=** **C E F G**

The chord of C+ **uses 1 3 5#** **=** **C E G#**

The chord of C6 **uses 1 3 5 6** **=** **C E G A**

The chord of C7 **uses 1 3 5 7** **=** **C E G Bb**

The chord of C9 **uses 1 3 5 7 9** **=** **C E G Bb D**

The chord of C11 **uses 1 3 5 7 9 11** **=** **C E G Bb D F**

BLUFF YOUR WAY - ‘9’, ‘11’ and ‘sus4’ CHORDS

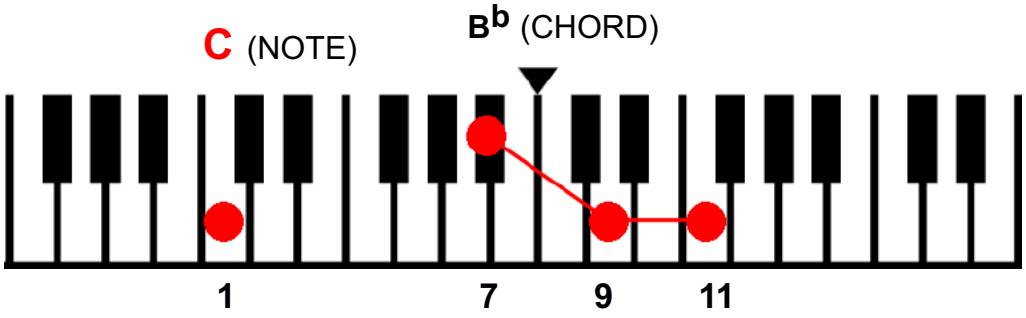
part 2 ONE MAGIC FORMULA

Notice that the ADDED notes for C9 are **B^b - D**
the ADDED notes for C11 are **B^b - D - F**
and the ADDED notes for Csus4 is **F**

Now notice that **B^b - D - F** is the chord of **Bb major**

So if you play the chord of B^b major with your right hand and play a left hand bass (ROOT) note of C you will roughly hear the ‘sound’ of the C9, Csus4 and C11 chords

C9
C11
Csus4



From this example we can easily work out a FORMULA to enable you to EASILY BLUFF any ‘9’ , ‘11’ or sus4 chord...

Notice that the RIGHT hand Bb chord is 2 notes LEFT of C

So the MAGIC FORMULA is...

TO BLUFF **X9** or **X11** or **Xsus4**

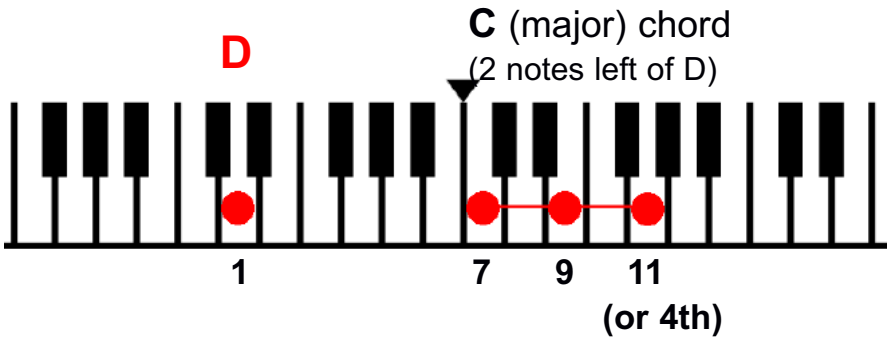
LEFT HAND - plays the ROOT note of **X** in the bass

RIGHT HAND - plays a MAJOR chord whose ROOT note is 2 notes LEFT of **X**

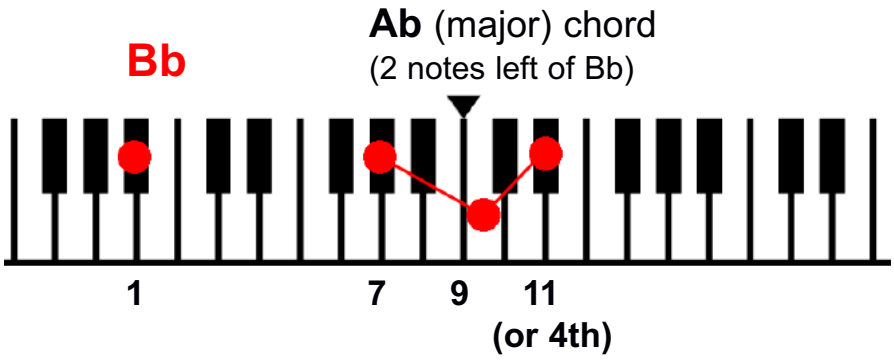
REMEMBER TO COUNT BLACK KEYS

EXAMPLES OF BLUFFED 9, 11 and sus4 chords

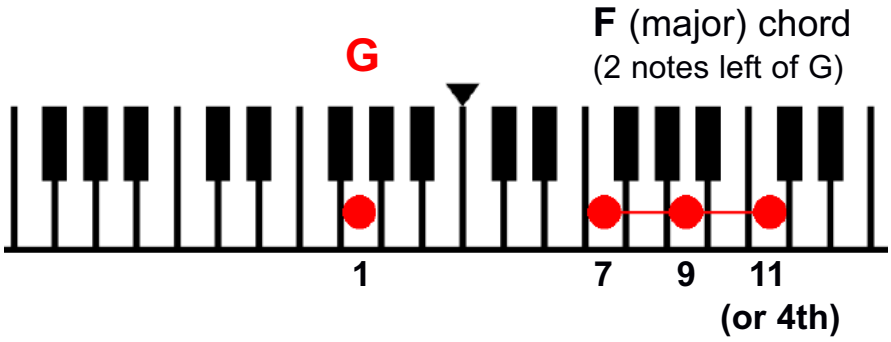
D9, D11 or Dsus4



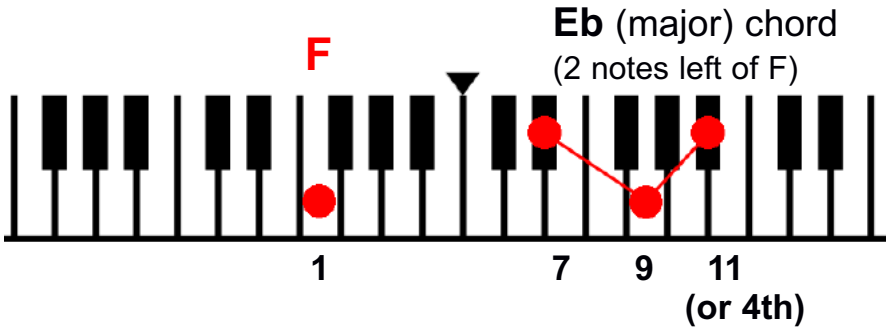
B♭9, B♭11 or B♭sus4



G9, G11 or Gsus4



F9, F11 or Fsus4



BLUFF 9, 11, sus4 PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS

Rhythm - Bossa Nova Bounce (HUNGRY HEART - Bruce Springstein)

G (bkwds)	Em (middle)	Am7	Dsus	Keep repeating

Rhythm- Half Beat Bounce (MANDY - Barry Mannilow)

C	Cmaj7	C	Cmaj7	Dm	Dm7
Bbmaj7	G11(Mid)	G			

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (ROCKET MAN - Elton John)

Gm Mid Gm7	Csus C7	Repeat	

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (HAVE I TOLD YOU LATELY - Van Morrison)

F Am7	Bmaj7 C	F Am7	Bb C	Bbmaj7	Am7
Gm Gm/C	F Csus				

Rhythm - Half beat bounce (WOMAN - John Lennon)

C	Dm	C	Dm	C	Am	Dm	Gsus,G	F	Dm	Em	Gsus,G
					Bkds		Mid		Mid		Mid

Rhythm - Bossa Nova Bounce (MY CHERIE AMOUR - Stevie Wonder)

Cmaj7	C11	Fmaj7 (Mid)	D11

*The above progressions are for improvisational purposes only.
You can purchase sheetmusic at www.sheetmusicdirect.com

MANILOW MOOD

I thought it worth including a little chordal composition based on Barry Manilow's style because there are several devices he employs in most of his songs (or at least in his arrangements of songs)

- Very often they change key several times which creates tension and movement that wants to be 'resolved'. The keys move upwards which builds the song up in an emotional way.

- He uses a lot of slash chords. ie C/D. They will either be written as slash chords OR as 9, 11 or sus4 chords. But basically it's the formula on page 4.

- He often employs a 3 beat slash chord pattern where the vocal gets drawn out and is quite dramatic (you've heard Frank Sinatra doing it a million times) You will see this used at the start of songs and then just before certain verses or the chorus.

- Notice also the bass runs that lead onto the next chord.

- He also uses CLUSTER chords (we'll look at these later) again to create a bit of dissonance and tension

Try the next tune and see if you can spot all these devices. Then try writing your own Manilow-style song.

MANILOW MOOD

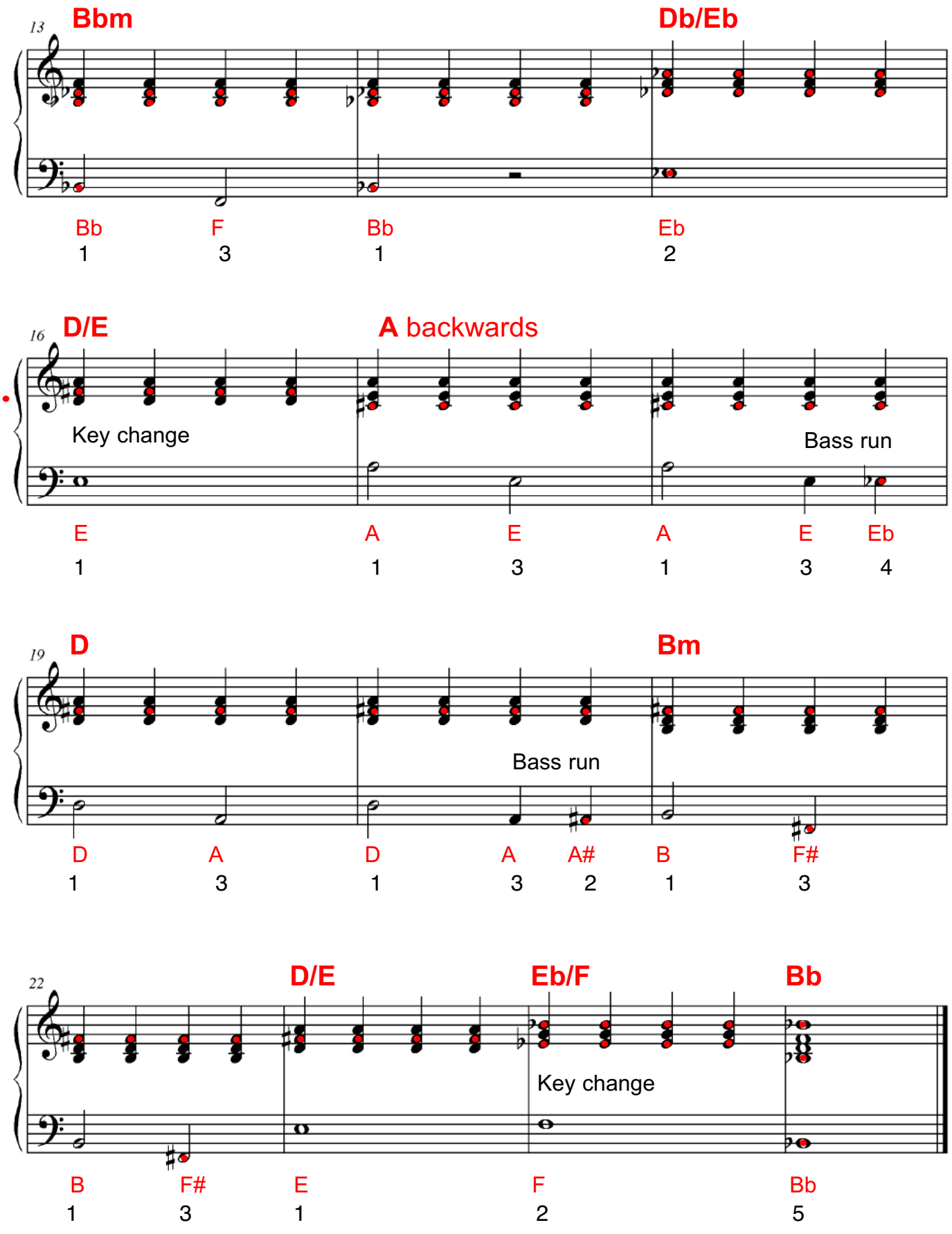
page 1

Rhythm - Oom Pah

D C/E D/F# G middle
4 3 2 1 3 1 Bass run 3 2
D E F# G D G D Db
C Am backwards
3
1 3 1 Bass run
C G C G G# A E
3 2 1 5
C/D Db/Eb Ab backwards
6
1 Key change 3 1 4
A E D Eb Ab Eb
1 5
Db
10
Bass run Bass run
Ab Eb D Db Ab Db Ab A
1 4 1 2 4 1 3 2

MANNILOW MOOD

page 2



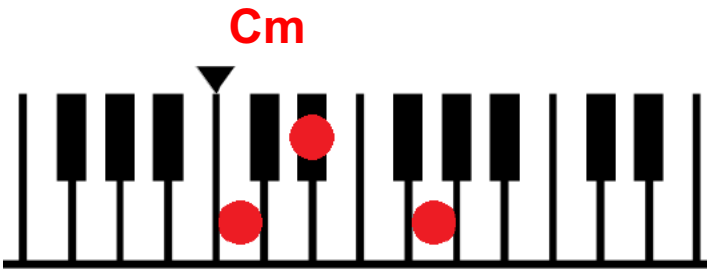
DIMINISHED CHORDS

Diminished chords add a very distinct sound to any tune. The good news is they aren't really THAT difficult to learn.

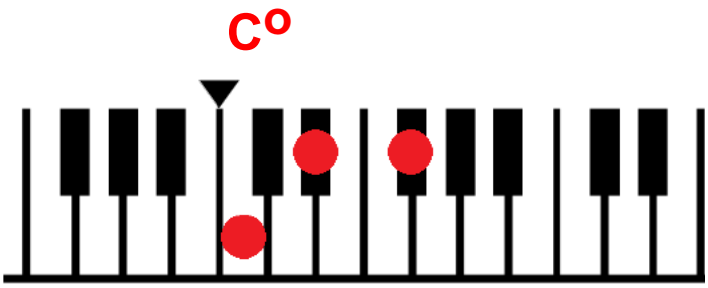
One way to make a diminished chord is to play a MINOR chord (in ROOT position) and move the 5th (your small finger) DOWN one key.

ie. to make **C^{o}** (C diminished)
(which could also be written as Cm^{-5} or Cm^{b5} or Cdim)

First play **Cm**



Then move the 5th DOWN one key to make **C^{o}**



See if you can form **D^{o}, E^{o}, F^{o}, A^{o},**

Remember, make the minor first then drop the 5th down a key

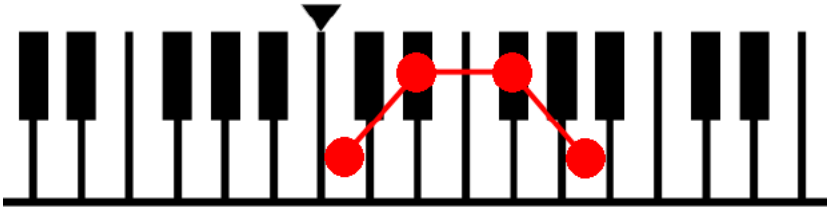
DIMINISHED CHORDS

ALL YOU NEED TO LEARN ARE 3 SHAPES

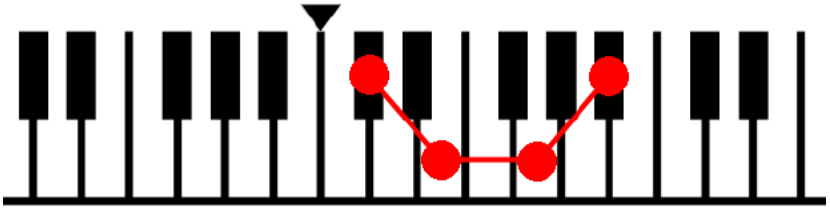
Another very useful thing to remember about diminished chords is that they connect up in a most GEOMETRIC way

Notice how the groups of four diminished chords on the left ALL fit into the ONE shape to their right. Check it and see for yourself!

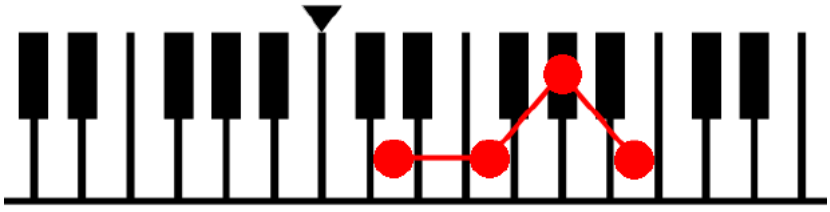
C^o = C Eb Gb
Eb^o = Eb Gb A
$F\#^o$ = F# A C
A^o = A C Eb



Db^o = Db E G
E^o = E G Bb
G^o = G Bb Db
Bb^o = Bb Db E



D^o = D F Ab
F^o = F Ab B
Ab^o = Ab B D
B^o = B D F



So if you MEMORISE these 3 SHAPES you can easily play ANY diminished chord

Diminished Chords - Practice Progressions

Rhythm- Left note / Right chord (YOU MAKE ME FEEL SO YOUNG)

C	C# dim	Dm	G	Keep repeating

Rhythm - Left note/Right chord (TUXEDO JUNCTION "Way down South..")

G Bkds	G/B	C	D	G	G/B	C	D
G	G/B	C	C#^{o}	D	D	G	

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (SHE - Charles Aznavour)

D		Fdim		G		D	B	Em		B^{b}dim	
D	Bm	Em	A	D							

Rhythm - Left note / Right chord ('AINT MISBEHAVING)

C	C#dim	Dm	D#dim	Em	Fdim	F	Fdim
Em	Am	Dm	G	C			

Rhythm - Bossa Nova Bounce (MY SWEET LORD - George Harrison)

A	Em	A	Em	A	Em
A	D	Bm	D	Bm	D
Ebdim	Em	A	Em	A	etc

Rhythm - Oom Pah (LIFE IS A CABARET OLD CHUM - Liza Minnelli)

D	A7	D	A7	D	Dmaj7	D7	D7
G	G#dim	Dmaj7	B7	Em7	A7	D	D

*The above progressions are for improvisational purposes only.
You can purchase sheetmusic at www.sheetmusicdirect.com or www.musicnotes.com

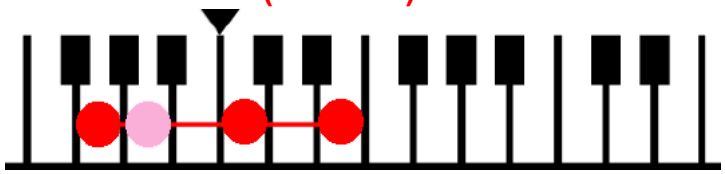
RIGHT HAND **CLUSTER** CHORDS

A CLUSTER chord is a chord in which two (or three) of the notes in the chord are CLUSTERED together.

Up to now you have played evenly spaced three note chords. If you ADD in an extra note INTO the chord you can make some very interesting sounds.

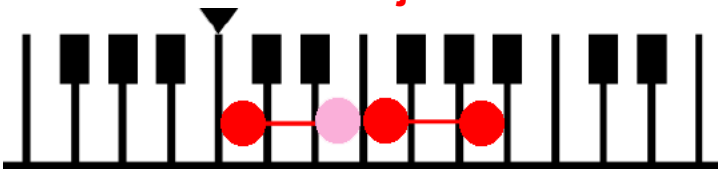
Try the following examples - ALL RIGHT HAND

C(added 6) Middle Inversion



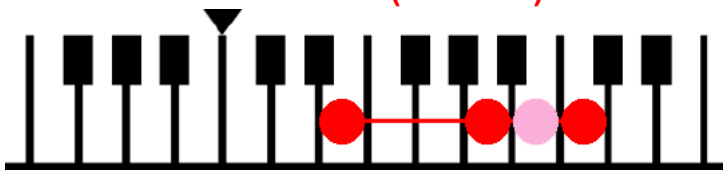
CHORD TONES	5th	6th	Root	3rd
Fingering	1	2	3	5

Fmaj7 Middle Inversion



CHORD TONES	5th	7th	Root	3rd
Fingering	1	2	3	5

Am (added 9) Middle Inversion



CHORD TONES	5th	Root	9th	3rd
Fingering	1	3	4	5

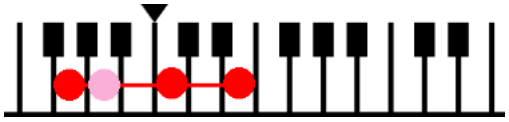
Can you hear the TENSION within the chord?

Now try the 2 bar song intro's on the next two pages

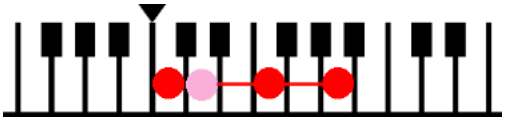
RIGHT HAND CLUSTER CHORDS

In the style of **FOOL ON THE HILL** - The Beatles

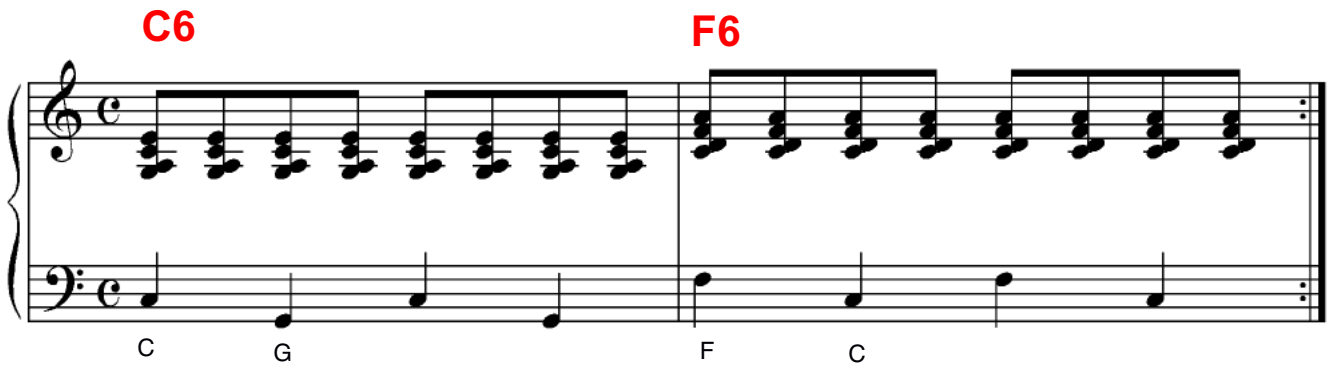
C6 Middle Inversion



F6 Middle Inversion

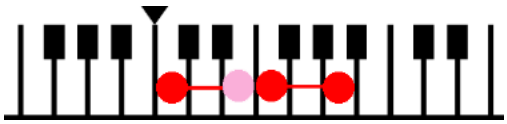


Rhythm - Oom Pah

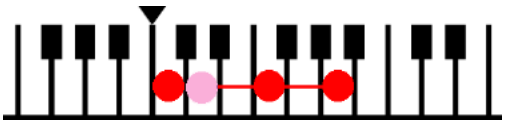


In the style of **ALONE AGAIN NATURALLY** - Gilbert O'Sullivan
and **EVERYBODY'S TALKIN' AT ME** - Harry Nilsson

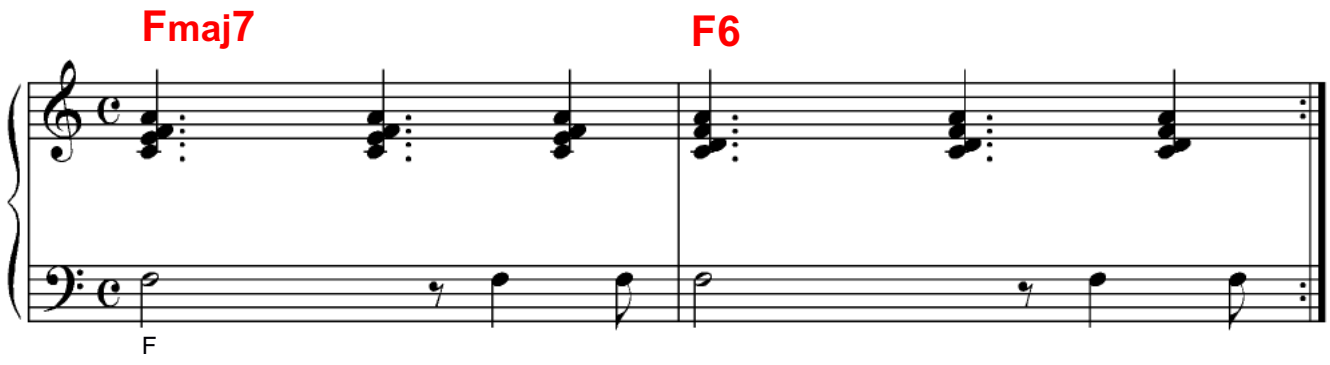
Fmaj7 Middle Inv



F6 Middle Inversion



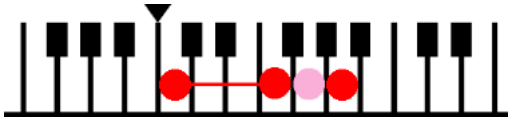
Rhythm - BOSSA NOVA BOUNCE



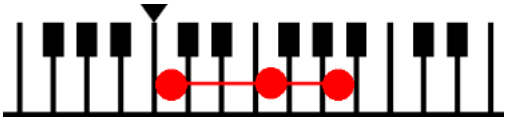
RIGHT HAND CLUSTER CHORDS

In the style of **WITHOUT YOU** - Harry Nilsson

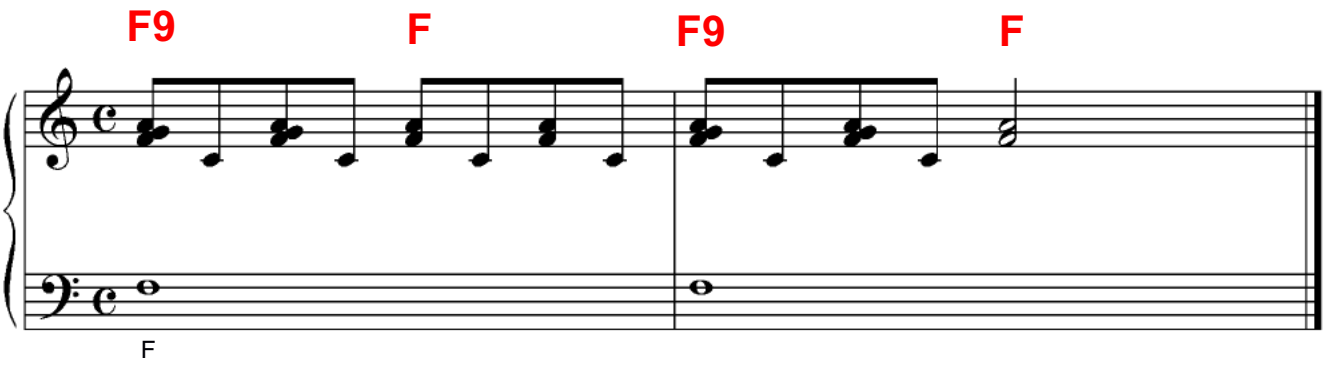
F(added9) Middle



F Middle Inversion

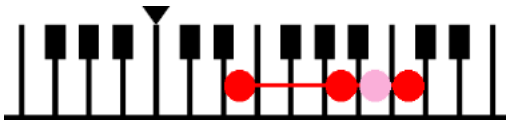


Rhythm - SPLIT CHORD

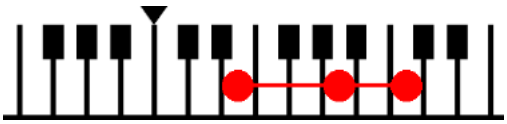


In the style of **IT MUST BE LOVE** - Labi Siffri / Madness

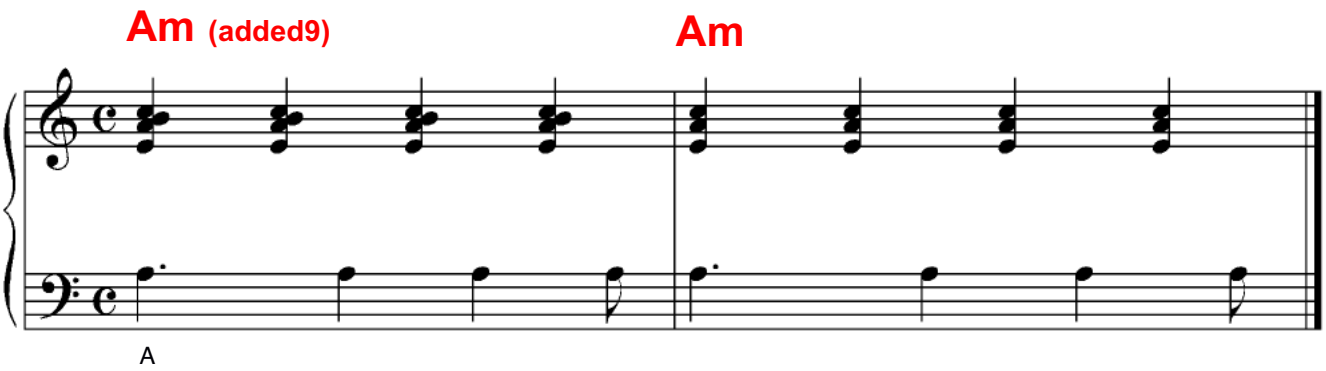
Am(added9) Middle Inv



Am Middle Inversion



Rhythm - NEW - Follow the notation & recording



EXTRA PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS

The following progressions are for improvisational purposes only to help you get used to the various rhythms and chords.

These progressions appear in other songs but limited space prevents me from mentioning them all.

Should you be inspired to play a particular song you can purchase sheet music online at

www.sheetmusicdirect.com
www.musicroom.com

EXTRA PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS -1

Rhythm - Oom Pah (LOVE AND MARRIAGE)

C	G7	C C7	F	C	E7 F
F#dim C	D7 G				

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (MY WAY)

D	Dmaj7/Db	D7/C	B	Em	Em7/D
A7/C#	D				

VERY slow - only 2 beats each bar Right Hand

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (BRING HIM HOME - Les Miserables)

F Gm	Am Bb	F Gm	Am Bb	Am	Gm
Bb/C C					

Rhythm - Oom Pah (TIE A YELLOW RIBBON ROUND THE OLE OAK TREE)

F	F	Am	Am	Cm	D7	Gm	Gm
Gm	Bbm	Dm	Dm	G	G7	Bbm	C7

Rhythm - 3 Beat Bounce (AMERICA - Simon & Garfunkel)

Eb	Ebmaj7	Cm	Cm7	Ab	Ab
Ab6	Ab	Eb	Ebmaj7	Cm	Cm

For Ab6 just add an F note

Rhythm - Split Chord (AND I WON'T LAST A DAY WITHOUT YOU - Carpenters)

G Bm	C C/D	Em	Am Am/D D

*The above progressions are for improvisational purposes only.
You can purchase sheetmusic at www.sheetmusicdirect.com or www.musicnotes.com

EXTRA PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS - 2

Rhythm - Bossa Nova Bounce (ALONE AGAIN NATURALLY - Gilbert O'Sullivan)

Fmaj7	F6	Am	Am7	Cm	Cm7
Adim	D7				

Rhythm - (Improvise) (DOWNTOWN - Petula Clarke)

G	Gmaj7	C	D7	G	Gmaj7	C	D7

Rhythm - Bossa Nova Bounce (ARTHUR - "Once in your life you find her..)

Am7	D7	G	C	F	B7	E	(B/E) E

Rhythm - SPLIT CHORD (LOVE IS REAL - John Lennon)

--	Dm	A	Dm	Bb	Eb	F	Bb

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (I CAN SEE CLEARLY NOW)

Bb	Eb	Bb	Bb	Bb	Eb	F	F7

Rhythm - Oom Pah (CHANSON D'AMOUR)

F	G9	Gm	Gm7	C	C+
F	A A7				

Rhythm - Oom Pah (HOW ABOUT YOU - "I like New York in June.. How about you?..")

G	Gdim	Am	D7	G	G F#	Bdim	E7

*The above progressions are for improvisational purposes only.
You can purchase sheetmusic at www.sheetmusicdirect.com or www.musicnotes.com

EXTRA PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS - 3

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (OVER THE RAINBOW)

C	Am7	Em	Cmaj7	F	Fmaj7	Em7	Edim
F	Fm	C	A7	F	G	C	

Rhythm - Bossa Nova Bounce (I'LL NEVER FALL IN LOVE AGAIN - "What do you get when you fall in love..")

Fmaj7	Dm7	Bb	Bb C7	Am	D7
Gm	C7	Bb7	F		

Rhythm - Oom Pah (SAVE YOUR KISSES FOR ME)

G	Gmaj7	G7	C	Cm	G	Am	Am D

Rhythm - Slow Half beat Bounce (A MAN NEEDS A MAID - Neil Young)

Am Bkds	G	F	C	Am	G	F	Am

Rhythm - Bossa Nova Bounce (DANIEL - Elton John)

C	C	Dm	Dm/C	G/B	G/A
E/G#	Am				

Rhythm - Oom Pah (THE BEAR NECESSITIES)

F	F7	Bb	Bb	F	D7	G7	C7

*The above progressions are for improvisational purposes only.
You can purchase sheetmusic (and view the first page for free)
at www.sheetmusicdirect.com or www.musicnotes.com or www.musicroom.com

EXTRA PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS - 4

Rhythm - Bossa Nova Bounce (LYING EYES - The Eagles)

G	Gmaj7	C	Cmaj7	Am	Am7	D	D7

Rhythm - Split Chord (LONELY TOGETHER - Barry Mannilow)

Eb		Bb11	Bb	Fm7	Bb	Eb	Bb11

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (EVERYBODY HURTS - R.E.M.)

D	G	D	G	D	G	Em	A
Em	A	Em	A	D			

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce or Split Chord (MOON RIVER)

C	Am	F	C	F	C	Bdim	E7

Rhythm - Oom Pah (I WANNA BE LIKE YOU - Jungle Book)

Am	Am	Am	E7	E7	E7	E7	Am

Rhythm - Split Chord or Half Beat Bounce (UNCHAINED MELODY)

G	Em	Cmaj7	D7	G	Em	D	D7

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (CAN'T HELP LOVIN' DAT MAN)

Cmaj7	Am7	Dm7	G7	Cmaj7	C11	F	Fm
Em7	Am7	Ab7	G7	Cmaj7			

*The above progressions are for improvisational purposes only.
You can purchase sheetmusic at www.sheetmusicdirect.com or www.musicnotes.com

EXTRA PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS - 5

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (JEALOUS GUY - John Lennon)

G Em	D	D7	Em	Em6	D	Em	C

middle

Rhythm - Left note / Right chord (YOU MAKE ME FEEL SO YOUNG)

Bb	Bdim	Cm	F	Repeat	

Rhythm - Left note / Right chord (PENNIES FROM HEAVEN)

C	Dm	Em	Ebdim	Dm7	G7	Dm7	G7

Rhythm - Oom Pah (I'LL DO ANYTHING - from Oliver)

Bb	Bbmaj7	Bb6	Bbmaj7	F	F7
Bb	Bbmaj7	Bb6	Bbmaj7	F7sus	F

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (STILL CRAZY AFTER ALL THESE YEARS)

F	F/A	Bb	Eb7	F	Edim	A (7)	Dm

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (MEET ME ON THE CORNER - "Hey mister dreamseller")

G	D/F#	Em	D	C	D	G	D

Rhythm - Left note/Right chord (IS YOU IS OR IS YOU AINT MY BABY)

Em	Em/D	C	B

*The above progressions are for improvisational purposes only.
You can purchase sheetmusic (and view the first page for free)
at www.sheetmusicdirect.com or www.musicnotes.com or www.musicroom.com

RHYTHMS FOR BEATLES SONGS part 1

I recommend The Beatles Complete

SONG	1st Chord	RHYTHM
Across the Universe	C	SPLIT CHORD
All my Lovin'	Dm	TWIST
All You Need is Love	G	HALF BEAT BOUNCE / BASS RUN
And I Love Her	Fm	BALLAD / BOSSA NOVA
Another Girl	G	TWIST
Anytime At All	Gm	BOSSA NOVA
Baby You're a Rich Man	G	BOSSA NOVA
Back In The USSR	G	STRAIGHT EIGHT BOOGIE
Ballad of John & Yoko	C	TWIST
Because	Am	SPLIT CHORD
For the Benefit of Mr Kite	Cm	HALF BEAT BOUNCE
Carry That Weight	C	BOSSA / Cluster chords
Can't Buy me Love	C	TWIST
Bungalow Bill	C	HALF BEAT BOUNCE
Cry Baby Cry	G	STRAIGHT BEAT / BASS RUN
A Day in the Life	G	HALF BEAT BOUNCE (slow then fast)
Day Tripper	C	TWIST
Dear Prudence	G	HALF BEAT BOUNCE
Don't Pass Me By	C	TWIST
Eight Day's a Week	G	TWIST
Fool On The Hill	C6	(see page 14)
For No One	C	(listen to the original)
For You Blue	C	12/8 BOOGIE SHUFFLE
From Me To You	G	TWIST 2
Golden Slumbers	C6	BALLAD
Happiness is a Warm Gun	Am	BOUNCE 1 / UM PAH
Get Back	D?	12/8 BOOGIE SHUFFLE
Girl	Am	OOM PAH (think Russian)
Glass Onion	Am	BOSSA
Good Day Sunshine	G	OOM PAH
Got To Get You Into My Life	C	BOSSA NOVA
Hard Day's Night	C	TWIST
Help	Dm	TWIST
Hello Goodbye	F	HALF BEAT BOUNCE
Here, There & Everywhere	F	SPLIT CHORD
Hey Jude	C	HALF BEAT BOUNCE / Slash

RHYTHMS FOR BEATLES SONGS part 2

SONG	1st Chord	RHYTHM
Here Comes The Sun	G	BOSSA NOVA
Honey Pie	Dm	OOM PAH
I Feel Fine	F	TWIST
I Me Mine	Am	3 BEAT BOUNCE
I Need You	G	BOSSA NOVA
I Saw Her Standing There	C	TWIST
I Should've Known Better	C	TWIST
I Wanna Hold Your Hand	C	TWIST
I Will	F	SPLIT CHORD
I Am The Walrus	A	STRAIGHT BEAT / Think Oasis
If I Fell	Gm	SPLIT CHORD
If I Needed Someone	G	BOSSA NOVA
I'm Looking Through You	C	TWIST
I'm Only Sleeping	Em	HALF BEAT BOUNCE
I'm So Tired	A	BOUNCE / TWIST
In My Life	G	HALF BEAT BOUNCE
It's Only Love	C	BALLAD STYLE
I Wanna Be Your Man	F	STRAIGHT EIGHT BOOGIE
Julia	D	HALF BEAT BOUNCE
Long And Winding Road	Am	HALF BEAT BOUNCE
Lovely Rita Meter Maid	C	STRAIGHT BEAT
Lucy In The Sky	A	HALF BEAT BOUNCE / Str8
Martha My Dear	C	OOM PAH
Maxwell's Silver Hammer	C	OOM PAH
Michelle	D	SPLIT CHORD
The Night Before	G	TWIST
Nowhere Man	C	OOM PAH
Ob La Di	F	(listen to the original)
Piggies	F	STRAIGHT 4 BEAT
Run For Your Life	G	TWIST
Sexy Sadie	F	STRAIGHT 4 BEAT
Sgt Pepper	C	TWIST
Something	G	SPLIT CHORD
Strawberry Fields Forever	A	HALF BEAT BOUNCE
Sun King	C	SPLIT CHORD
When I'm Sixty Four	C	OOM PAH
While My Guitar Gently Weeps	Am	HALF BEAT BOUNCE
Yesterday	F	SPLIT CHORD
You Can't Do That	F	TWIST & BOUNCE
You Won't See Me	F	TWIST

BEATLES STYLINGS

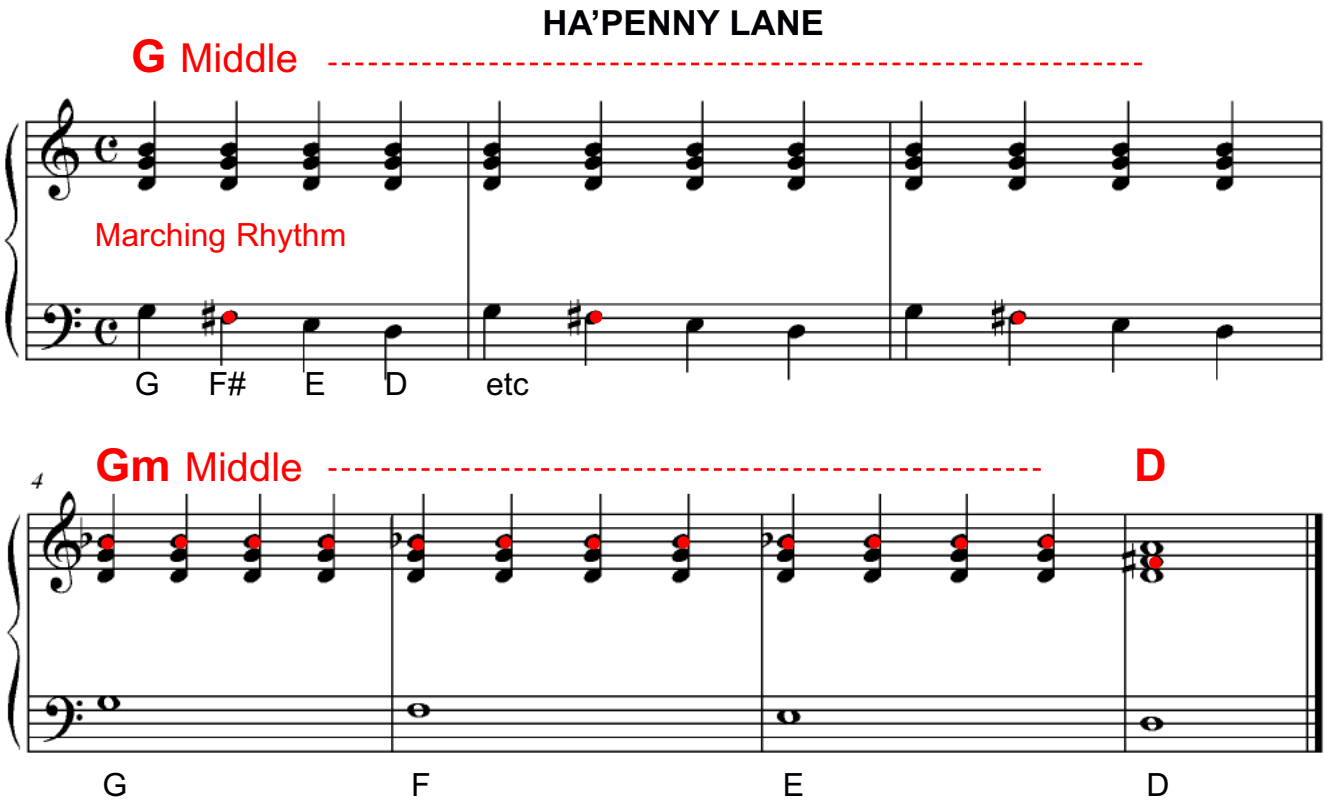
You can have great fun practicing your favourite Beatles songs
and the rhythms in this book will help you play most of them. There are some stylings that we haven't covered that can make all the difference to your sound.

SEVENTHS

They used sevenths a LOT! Play any chord slowly and then move your thumb to the maj7 or the 7 and you will hear a Beatles song in your head.

BASS RUNS

They also made good use of bass runs. Try the following tune in the style of Penny Lane then go listen to the actual song and try to figure it out.



You can do something similar with **FIXING A HOLE**

Rhythm - fast Half Beat Bounce

C	Cm/B	Cm/Bb	Cm/A	Cm/G	Cm/F#	F7
Cm7		F7				

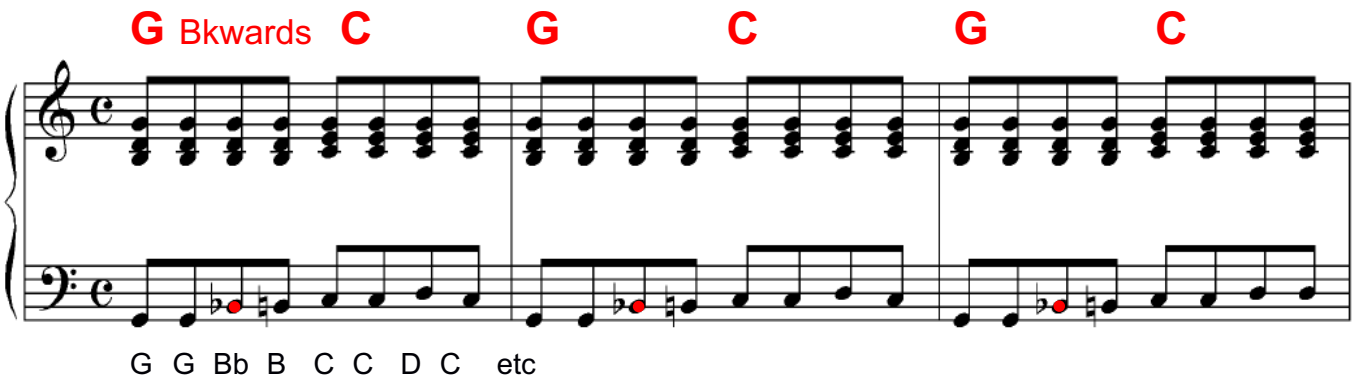
BEATLES STYLINGS

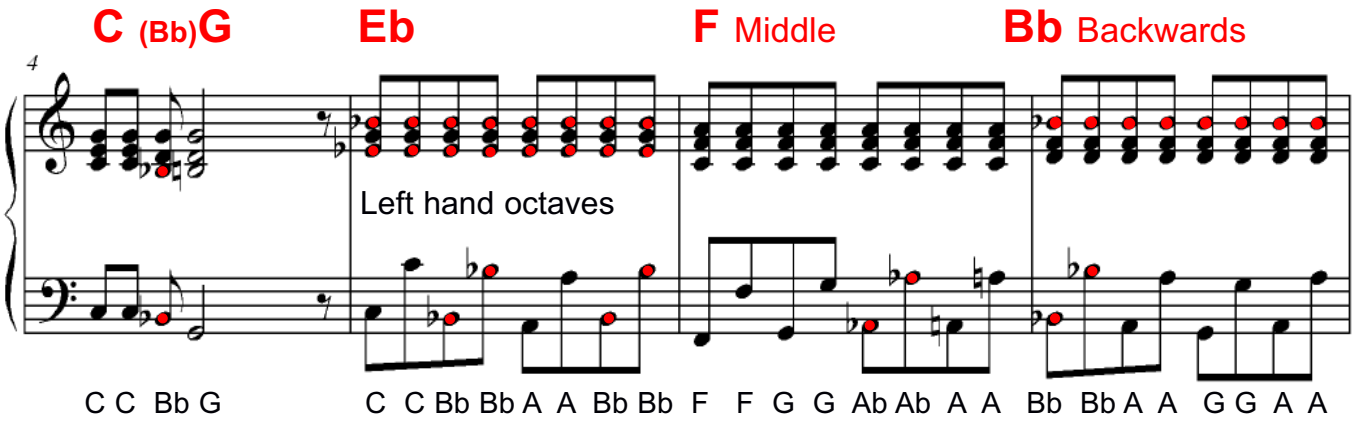
BLUES & ROCK AND ROLL

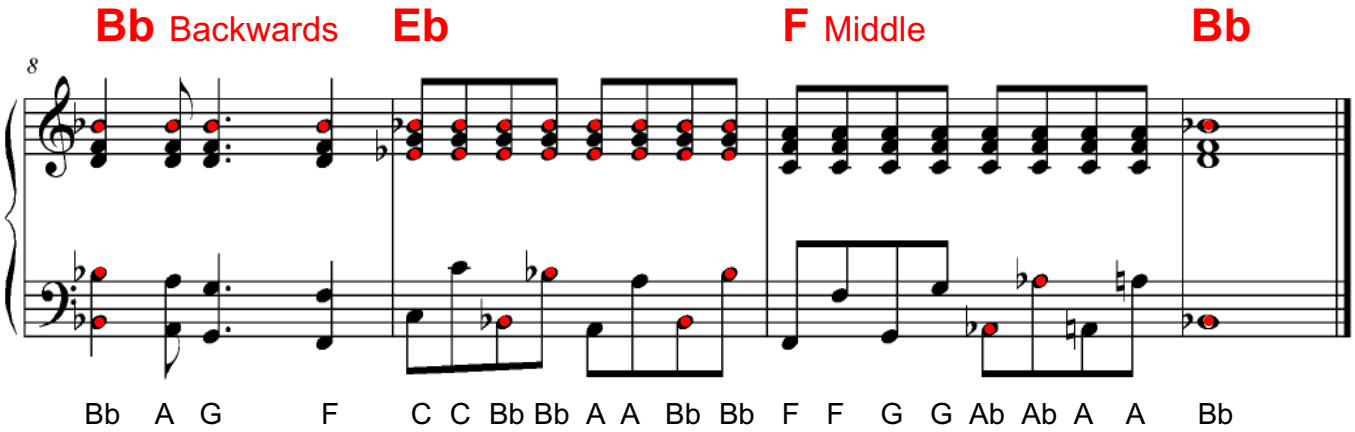
The Beatles covered a lot of Blues and Rock and Roll songs and wrote many of their own. See how many Blues rhythms you can match up to Beatles songs.

Try the Blueberry Hill rhythm with **OH DARLING** and the 12/8 Jerry Lee Lewis style Boogie rhythm with **BACK IN THE USSR**.

Or modify the standard Blues rhythms to suit. Try this tune in the style of **LADY MADONNA** then work out the REAL song!







YOU ARE NOW
READY FOR BOOK 5